

# PIONEER

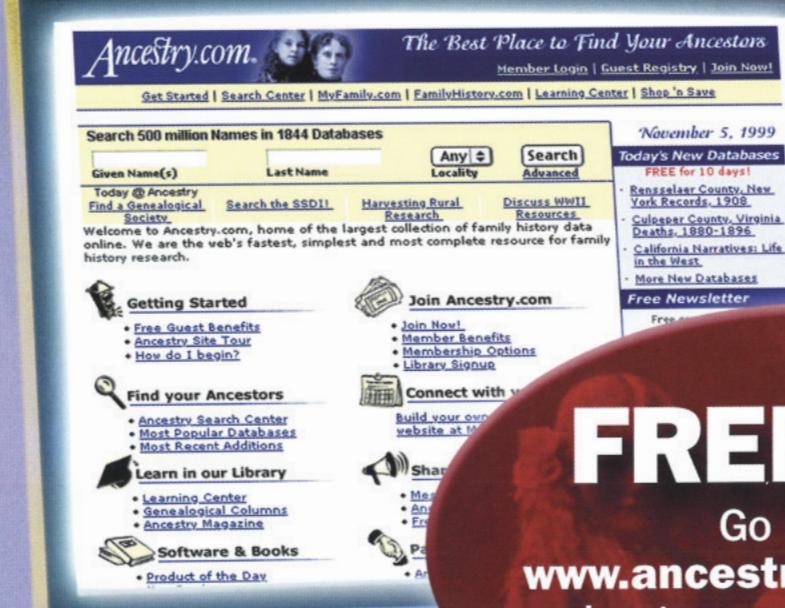
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*Discovering Our Pioneers Today*  
pages 4 and 21

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# PIONEER

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**MISSION STATEMENT**  
The National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers honors early and modern-day pioneers, both young and older, for their faith in God, devotion to family, loyalty to church and country, hard work, service to others, courage in adversity, personal integrity, and unyielding determination. Pioneer magazine supports the mission of the Society.

# A New Partnership

**A** recent survey of the programs and services on the Internet that are most frequently visited by computer buffs shows that family research and genealogy websites are near the top in popularity. This is not surprising to members of the Sons of Utah Pioneers since we have a vested interest in preserving our LDS pioneer heritage.

What perhaps is more surprising is the surging interest in genealogy by the rest of the society. The fascination with tracing family history is becoming one of the most popular hobbies, as parents seek to instill an appreciation of ancestry in their children as well as learn more about their family tree themselves.

In a recent session of LDS general conference, leaders highlighted the increased interest in family research from an ecclesiastic point of view, noting that the Church is working toward the goal of 100 working temples by the end of the year 2000. This increased temple activity parallels increased activity in family history work, which in turn is accelerating through the use of new techniques and programs available through computers. With so much information becoming available online each and every day, this is a great time for genealogy.

The library at the Sons of Utah

By  
President  
John W.  
Anderson



Pioneers has a great collection of printed histories and other documents, many of which are not available anywhere else. This material cannot be checked out but is restricted to use within the library, thus excluding those not living in close proximity. Because of the age and rarity of some of the materials, they must be kept under close surveillance for preservation and security. It has long been our goal to not only preserve these library materials by providing an electronic backup, but also to make them more readily available to our members and friends living outside the library area. In pursuit of that objective, a contract was recently negotiated with an Internet provider, MyFamily.com, Inc., that will scan and digitize some of our materials to CD-ROMs, discs, or other electronic media, thus providing a backup. In addition, much of this information will be available to download from the convenience of home to Internet subscribers. Can you imagine the ability to quickly retrieve an article from an old issue of the *Pioneer*? This will soon be a reality.

To acquaint readers with the services offered by this company, as well as the benefits available to the Sons of Utah Pioneers, this issue of the *Pioneer* includes several advertisements as well as articles outlining the potential value of family history research on the Internet.

MyFamily.com, originally called Ancestry.com, began years ago as a publisher of books, magazines, newsletters, and CD-ROMs. Today a principal function of this company is maintaining a website on the Internet for dissemination of databases through its key Internet properties, Ancestry.com and MyFamily.com.

The company is a prime source for tracing family history online with over 1,750 searchable databases containing information on more than 275 million individuals.

The MyFamily.com website allows families to communicate online through free, private websites, sharing news and photos, maintaining a calendar, and sharing family history. At present there are more than 500,000 private family websites. This program can be also used by individual chapters of the Sons of Utah Pioneers to establish our own private websites, restricted to chapter members only, to extend greetings to individual members, to announce chapter meetings, or simply to share chapter news.

Another program closely allied to ancestral research that concerns me is the writing of personal histories. At the final session of the encampment in Logan, we were all admonished to write a personal history. Whenever I visit the library at SUP headquarters, I am impressed by the journals of early pioneers that have been donated to our society. I am envious of those individuals who have journals written by their ancestors. Unfortunately, none of my progenitors kept a journal or wrote a personal history, and I am sure that my circumstances are not unique. But let us not continue to fail in this regard. I would encourage every member, every spouse, and every reader to begin a personal history today. If you have already done so, congratulations! But don't rest on your laurels! Keep your histories updated; prepare a history of your parents and grandparents if one is not available. I assure you there is no greater legacy that you can leave your family.



# Taut Family Ties

By Mary A. Johnson, president of the International Society of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers

**W**hen you attend a funeral, what impresses you the most? Recently I attended five funerals, all for mothers. Four of these women had suffered from incurable diseases for some time and had endured pain that was almost unbearable; the fifth died in a car accident. She had been the caregiver for her immediate and extended family up to the moment of her demise. The shock that accompanies a sudden passing may be harder to cope with than saying good-bye to someone who has suffered long.

Yet the theme of each funeral was the same—love, especially the love these mothers had for their families and the love the families had for their mothers. Family ties are strong, and a mother is usually the one who feels responsible to keep the strings taut. One might think of Mother as the hub of a wheel, while children are the spokes circling around, and Father is the covering embracing it all. Everything makes a cozy unit.

There has been much said lately about the breakdown of the family and the importance of once again making the family the center core of society. There was a time when families were the most important part of society. How sad it is that today some people don't even know who their grandparents are.

Families precede us and extend beyond us. This is what creates family history. One cannot overestimate the importance of the complete family—the family of yesterday, the family of today, the family of the future. There is a link that connects all together. Genetics play an important part in growth and behavior. We can understand ourselves better if we

know something about those who came before us.

Any way you look at it, our ancestors form a family circle that embraces one generation after another and provides a cloak of comfort to those who belong. Our ancestors provide an understanding of our own feelings.

These connections make family history research exciting. It has been so fulfilling to work in the history department of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers museum. It's fun to see people find an ancestor they have searched for. It's touching to see the tears fall as someone reads about an ancestor for the first time. I know they're feeling a connection, and everyone seems to have a need to be connected. Often those who lack this connection feel a void in their lives, a missing link. The histories and the information found in the DUP and SUP libraries help provide that link.

Of course, sometimes there may be those of disreputable character lurking in the shadows of our past; there may be those who are famous in some way; there may be those of nondescript character. We must be careful not to let past performance by our predecessors dictate our actions today. Perhaps that is what Ring Lardner meant when he said, "The family you come from isn't nearly as important as the family you're going to have."

I've thought about that statement through the years. Did he mean that while we love our siblings we never know what real love is until we have children of our own? Maybe he was saying that as important as the family unit we grew up in is, we cannot direct its behavior like

we need to direct our own family.

Whatever Ring Lardner meant, I have concluded that the experience of raising a family and feeling the deep love that comes from giving birth and nurturing and disciplining my children and helping them mature into independent adults cannot be compared to any other.

During her last illness, my mother said to me, "I have raised a good family, haven't I?" That was her main concern. She looked at each of her daughters and said, "You are so beautiful. I can't stand to leave you."

To a mother, all her children are beautiful, and she doesn't want to break that tie, even when she knows she is dying.

It was also my mother, along with my father, who taught me and my sisters the importance of family history, the importance of reaching back and connecting with the past and then passing that connection on to the future. Family connections were important to my parents.

So Mr. Lardner, while the family you come from may not be nearly as important as the family you're going to have, it is still very important.

And that's what the DUP and SUP are all about—helping to discover those who preceded us and honoring them with gratitude for the heritage they have left behind.

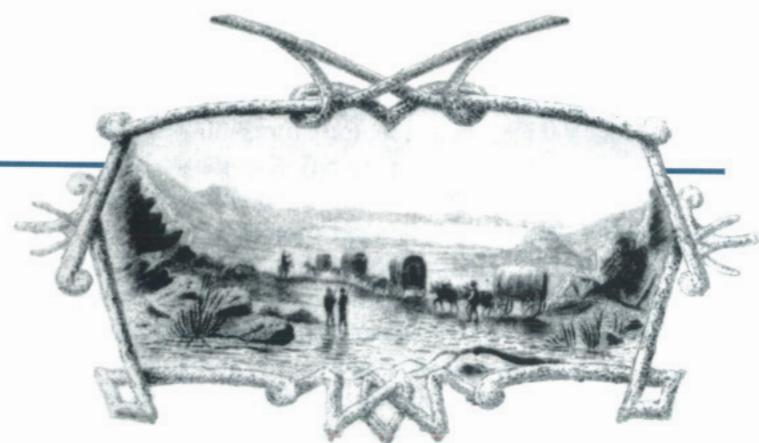
The next time you attend a funeral, ponder the words spoken. Most likely you'll hear something about family history and family ties.

Feel the unity in the room. Think of the importance of discovering those links that connect families together. Reach into your past to find contentment in the present. Find the love that exists in family units.

# Ancestry.com®



A Pioneer Website in Linking  
the Past to the Present and Beyond



More than a century and a half ago, pioneers settled the Salt Lake Valley. They broke ground and built homes and planted food and trees and flowers. Women birthed babies and men harvested crops. And once in a great while, someone somewhere took a rare moment and recorded a few words, feelings, and information about what was happening.

Today, some 150 years later, the pursuit of those precious records has fueled an entire industry that transcends age, gender, social, and economic barriers. Once reserved for a chosen few, family history now beckons to anyone and everyone searching for roots and branches and seeds from their family tree.

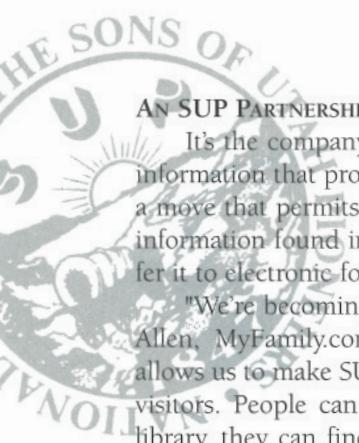
#### A TREASURE TROVE OF INFORMATION

Pioneering this industry that links the past with the present and preserves it for the future is MyFamily.com (formerly called Ancestry.com), a huge resource for tracing family history online, with the most comprehensive collection of credible, commercial genealogical databases available. This once-small company has exploded in the past several months as the rising tide of family history buffs recognize the rich treasures it offers.

MyFamily's family history web presence, Ancestry.com, provides the single largest resource of family history information found on the World Wide Web—or anywhere else for that matter. With the click of a mouse, an Ancestry.com visitor can access more than 1,750 fully searchable databases containing information about more than 300 million individuals. What's more, the pool of information grows daily, with an average of one new database added to the site every workday since May 1997.

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Millcreek Mo April 5th 1875  
 Poultice for Horses Hoof  
 Take 10 quarts of Wheat Bran + 10 quarts  
 of Barley water + 2 quarts of ashes, 1  
 Bring the water to a boil & pour into the  
 Bran when it settles pour the  
 water on the Bran & mix the Poultice &  
 lay prepared to receive the horse &  
 apply to the foot as hot as the horse can  
 bear it. 1/2 sweat garment for Bound hoof  
 to be used with the above Poultice,  
 Boreasive Sublimate, one dray  
 Gum Camphor.  
 Alcohol  
 Shirts of Turpentine  
 take well then add the Camphor +  
 Turpentine, it will be ready for use  
 lay a dry rag around the foot  
 & the top of the hoof + let it  
 lay about two inches on the hair,  
 applications is enough  
 all blistered soon rub on  
 in hand, wash the foot with  
 water & when dry use  
 this method until the  
 Hoof is removed  
 Hoof Oil 1/2 pint  
 of Tar  
 of Camphor = (3) dr.  
 of Turpentine = (3) "  
 & apply to the bottom of the foot one or  
 two weeks it will keep the foot moist & will  
 the Hoof to grow rapidly



### AN SUP PARTNERSHIP

It's the company's unquenchable thirst for "new" old information that prompted a recent partnership with SUP, a move that permits MyFamily.com to take the shelves of information found in the SUP library and archives, transfer it to electronic formats, and put it online.

"We're becoming an affiliate of sorts," explained Curt Allen, MyFamily.com CEO and president. "This move allows us to make SUP information available to any of our visitors. People can research information from the SUP library, they can find out about SUP, they can even read articles from past issues of *Pioneer*. This will be a fast, simple way for people to find information they wouldn't be able to access otherwise."

Because Ancestry.com is one of the Internet's fastest-growing subscriber-based websites, this partnership means that literally millions of people can browse through the contents of the SUP library, opening up a world of information that previously had been accessible to only a few.

"We're excited about the prospect that so many people can enjoy the rich treasures of information we've had stored for years," said John Anderson, SUP national president. "When all this information becomes available online, it won't matter where people live or whether they can afford to visit our national headquarters or even if their health would permit such a trip. The SUP doors are open wide, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, to anyone who needs this information that we've worked hard to gather and preserve. It can now be enjoyed by anyone who has access to the Internet."

### A HOST OF FAMILY HISTORY HELPS

First-time visitors to Ancestry.com may be in awe of the tremendous amount of information at their fingertips when they first view the site. Many of the site's databases are free for anyone to research, simply by typing in a name, date, or any other already-known information. Some of the most popular databases include the Social Security Death Index, the Ancestry World Tree, European and U.S. residential phone listings, and the World War I Civilian Draft Registration.

"Premium" databases, which the company either had to pay a royalty for or had to spend a significant amount of money to prepare for electronic use, are available for an annual subscription fee of \$59.95—a small amount to pay for such priceless information.

In addition to these databases, Ancestry.com offers other helps for the family history hunter. Whether a genealogy professional or simply a history hobbyist, visitors can browse through tutorials that provide tips, resources, and lessons that can help in a search for family roots. Daily news and access to online periodicals are also available to users.

For those who want to get a feel for where things were happening in the lives of those they're learning about, the site contains historical maps and gazetteers collected from

various providers worldwide. More than 200,000 people receive the company's daily or weekly newsletter, which contains the latest genealogy tips, news, and trends. Finally, novices and experts alike can purchase resource books, software, charts, forms, and other helpful family history tools through the Ancestry.com online store.

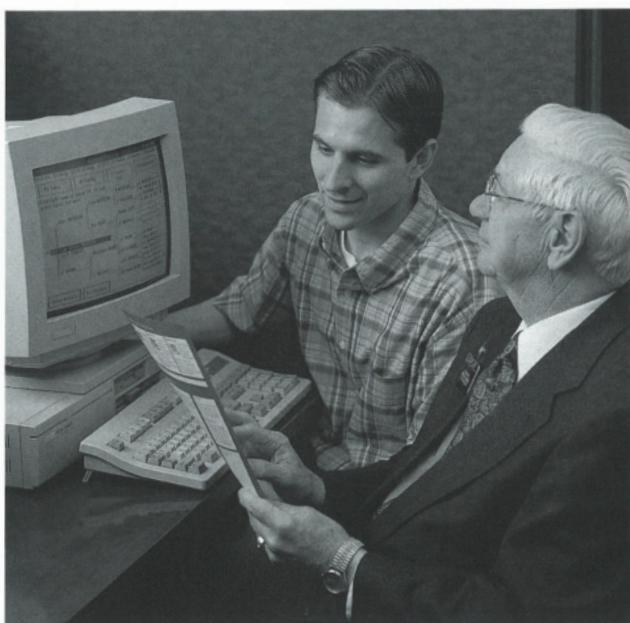
"Ancestry.com harnesses the power of the Internet, making it easy to uncover your family tree," observed Allen. "It's an easy, convenient, and affordable way to trace family history and discover that sense of belonging we all long for."

### AGE-OLD HOBBY GAINS CONTEMPORARY SUPPORT

While genealogical work has been around for eons (even the Bible makes a point to recite the genealogies of prominent prophets and leaders), traditionally it has been reserved for the retired or chosen few who had been "bitten" by the bug. Today, however, fascination with tracing family roots is becoming one of the most popular hobbies as parents seek to instill a sense of belonging and stability in their children. This growing trend has led the to exciting growth of MyFamily.com, a company actually created more than 15 years ago.

Originally, the primary purpose of the small operation was to publish *The Source, a Guidebook of American Genealogy*, a reference book that became a premier method of identifying, locating and interpreting a multitude of record collections available to genealogists.

A host of other firsts followed, including the creation of the *Ancestry Newsletter*, the forerunner to today's *Ancestry* magazine, and the *Genealogical Computing*



**WHETHER A GENEALOGY PROFESSIONAL OR SIMPLY A HISTORY HOBBYIST, VISITORS CAN BROWSE THROUGH TUTORIALS THAT PROVIDE TIPS, RESOURCES, AND LESSONS THAT CAN HELP IN A SEARCH FOR FAMILY ROOTS.**

Journal. The company won numerous awards from the American Library Association, the National Genealogical Society, and other prominent organizations.

In May 1996, Paul Allen and Dan Taggart, owners of Infobases, a company devoted to publishing electronic versions of LDS materials, invested in the growing family history company. Only a few months later, in December 1996, they acquired the company and within months had put the Society Security Death Index and other popular databases online—the first web service to offer free access to such large amounts of genealogical data.

The trend to provide the most and best information has continued. "We have full-time employees traveling the world, working with genealogical societies and libraries and government agencies and publishers to obtain the

rights to use family history content," Allen observed. "Our whole goal is to help people do their family history research, and since there's more than six billion people in the world right now and billions more who have come before, we've got our work cut out for us. But we're up to the task, and aligning ourselves with organizations like SUP only helps us draw closer to our goal."

"This partnership is important for a couple of reasons," Allen continued. "First, it allows SUP members to find information that they previously may not have been able to access or maybe they weren't even aware of its existence. Second, it allows Ancestry.com to provide millions of people around the world the ability to discover the treasures SUP offers. We're looking forward to a long and productive relationship." ▶

Welcome to

# Ancestry.com.

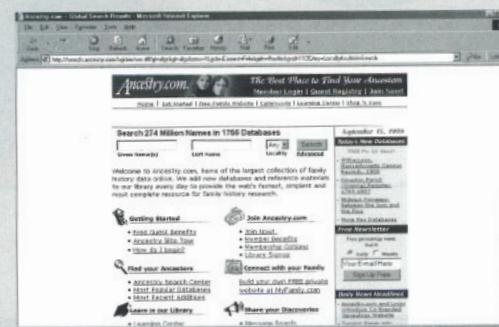
**M**illions of Americans are seeking their roots online, and one of the most popular family history sites is Ancestry.com ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)), a site that currently contains 500 million records in more than 1,800 databases.

To the newcomer, finding an ancestor in this immense collection can seem a daunting task. Don't despair! By using the search template in the yellow box on the first page, visitors to Ancestry.com can search all the records on the site simultaneously. (A more advanced search center is also available on the site that refines a search by selecting a location, a type of database, and/or date ranges.)

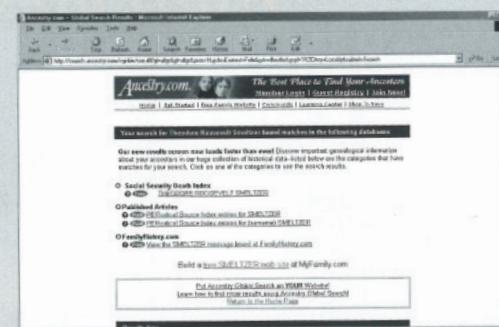
Once a search is performed, search results will be categorized by record type, and a list of databases appears, telling the visitor where to go. Those that are free are marked with a red oval; these databases are accessible to everyone. Databases marked with a green oval are available to subscribers. A user can determine whether a subscription would be worthwhile by seeing how many "hits" are found in subscription databases.

In either case, the actual information can be accessed by clicking on the database title. If it is a subscription database, the user must enter a member ID number and password before the information appears.

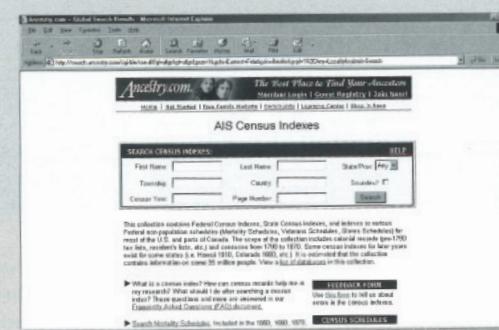
Essential information—dates and names and places and more—are only a click away with Ancestry.com, the premier source of family history information.



Ancestry.com home page



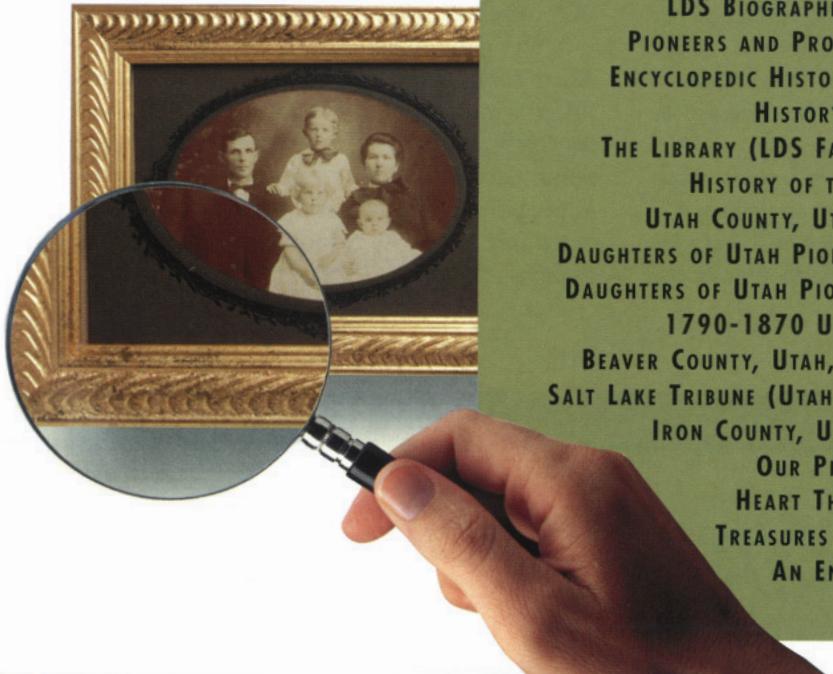
Ancestry.com search results sample



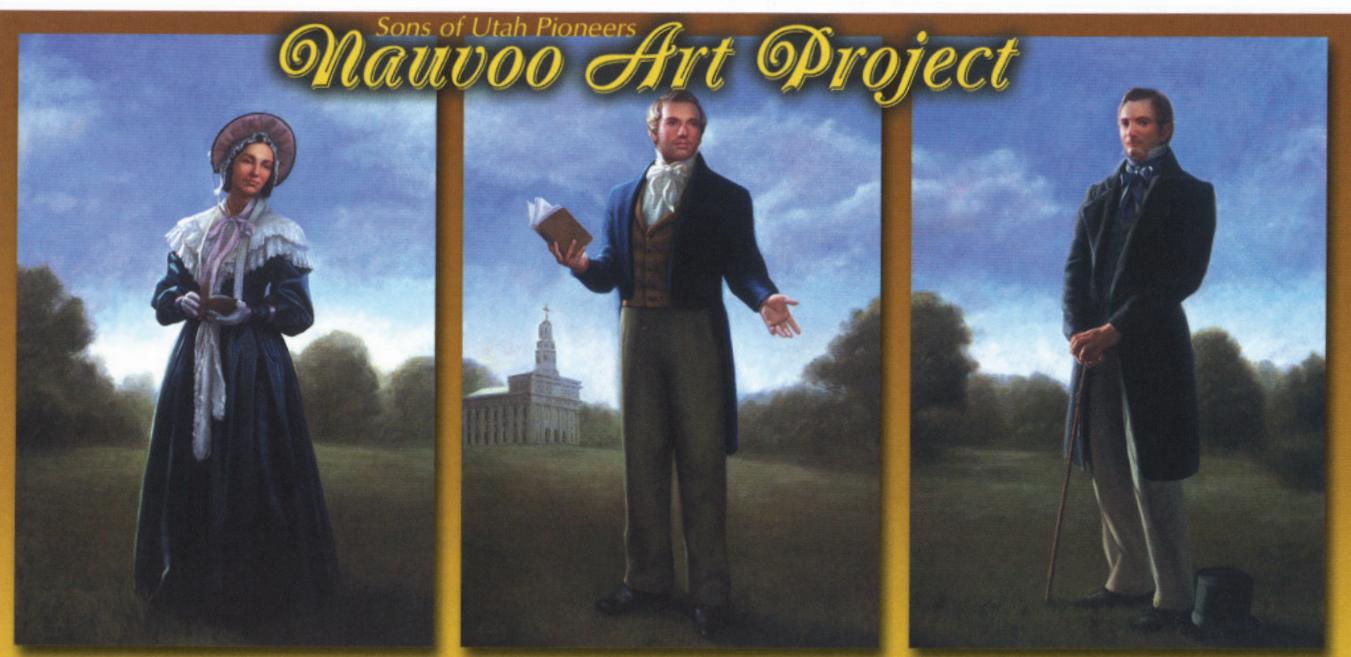
Ancestry.com Census Index

## Check These Out

Ancestry.com contains the following databases. Visit the site, and check out these rich resources of pioneer information.



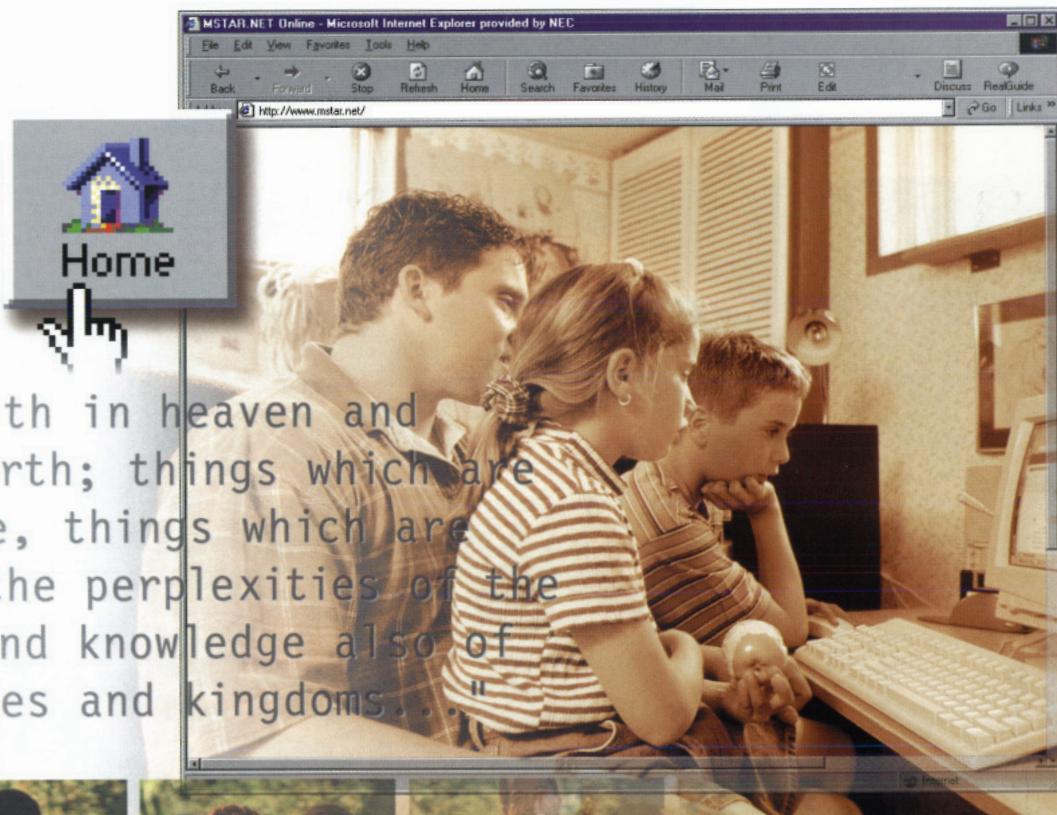
LDS BIOGRAPHICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA  
PIONEERS AND PROMINENT MEN OF UTAH  
ENCYCLOPEDIC HISTORY OF THE LDS CHURCH  
HISTORY OF UTAH  
THE LIBRARY (LDS FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY)  
HISTORY OF THE LDS CHURCH  
UTAH COUNTY, UTAH CEMETERY INDEX  
DAUGHTERS OF UTAH PIONEERS OBITUARY SCRAPBOOK  
DAUGHTERS OF UTAH PIONEERS AND THEIR MOTHERS  
1790-1870 UTAH CENSUS INDEX  
BEAVER COUNTY, UTAH, CENSUS RECORDS, 1900  
SALT LAKE TRIBUNE (UTAH), OBITUARIES, 1991-1999  
IRON COUNTY, UTAH CENSUS, 1910  
OUR PIONEER HERITAGE  
HEART THROBS OF THE WEST  
TREASURES OF PIONEER HISTORY  
AN ENDURING LEGACY



This set of original paintings by LDS artist David Lindsley will be installed in the new Joseph Smith Academy located directly in front of the Nauvoo Temple. Your tax-deductible donation in any amount will help fund this project. For a donation of \$500, you will receive a special matted set of prints along with a numbered certificate recognizing your contribution to the Nauvoo Art Project.

For more information contact:  
National Society of The Sons of Utah Pioneers  
3301 East 2920 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84109  
(801) 484-4441  
or visit [www.davidlindsley.com](http://www.davidlindsley.com)

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# REASONS TO



Pioneer Semi-Centennial Parade, 1897, courtesy Utah State Historical Society, all rights reserved.  
Tiffany Pioneer Jubilee Pin, courtesy Museum of Church History and Art.

# Rejoice



## PIONEER CELEBRATIONS IN EARLY UTAH

*A*nticipation of the new millennium causes us to reflect on the celebrations of the past. Events such as the meeting of the rails, a U.S. Presidential visit, the U.S. Centennial, and Utah achieving statehood stand as landmark days for past pioneers. Pioneers also celebrated special milestones of their faith such as Pioneer Day and the Golden Jubilee. They also created Old Folks Day, a unique celebration to honor the elderly. Pioneers faced many challenges and hardships, but their faith, friendship, and patriotism gave them many reasons to rejoice.

### PIONEER DAY

Great Salt Lake City was a small community in its infancy in 1849. Nestled between a great mountain range and an inhospitable desert, the nearest city of any size was hundreds of miles away. Thousands of Mormon settlers now called Great Salt Lake City home. They had journeyed far and suffered much to reach this new home. Despite the hazards of their trek west and the formidable challenge to start new lives, these settlers had reason to rejoice. On July 24, 1849, they did.

BY MICHAEL L. MOWER

**SURVIVING PIONEERS**

**POSE FOR A  
JULY 24, 1904,  
PIONEER DAY  
CELEBRATION  
PHOTO.**



On the second anniversary of the arrival of the main body of Latter-Day Saint pioneers into the valley of the Great Salt Lake, local residents awoke to the firing of a cannon and a brass band. A significant celebration was about to begin that would last much of the day.

Early that July morning, a brass band began playing martial tunes. Soon, a crowd followed the band to the bowery. By 7 a.m., a large crowd had assembled. First, they raised a 65-foot-long American flag atop a 104-foot-high pole. They fired guns, they rang the Nauvoo Bell, and the band continued to play. At 8 a.m. local bishops assembled in the bowery and raised banners representing their wards. The banners carried inscriptions to match the mood and joy of the day. Fifteen minutes later, Church dignitaries and the brass band paraded to President Brigham Young's home.

A grand procession through the streets of Great Salt Lake City then began. First came the town marshal on horseback followed by the brass band. The 12 area bishops then marched along carrying banners representing each of their wards. Seventy-four young men dressed in white were next; each carried a copy of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States in his hand. Young ladies wearing roses, Church dignitaries, including President Brigham Young, other bishops, and Church groups followed. Loyalty to the United States and an example of LDS church organization were on fine display.

Following the speeches and ceremony, a large feast was held at the bowery. Thousands of Latter-Day Saints, hundreds of emigrants passing through the valley, and more than fifty Native Americans shared the feast.

This initial Pioneer Day established a pattern that was repeated through the years in Great Salt Lake City as well as in numerous LDS cities and villages. Holiday celebrations almost always included a flag ceremony, patriotic readings, a parade, and public feasts. Dances

were held in the evening after the day's chores were completed.

The fifth Pioneer Day in Great Salt Lake City featured a tribute to scientific learning, possibly inspired by Orson Pratt. Included in the parade was a boy with a compass, a terrestrial globe, and other children carrying scientific instruments. Twenty-four Native American children also marched in the procession.

The most dramatic Pioneer Day event occurred ten years to the day after pioneers entered the valley. On July 24, 1857, Salt Lake City area residents celebrated Pioneer Day near the head of Big Cottonwood Canyon. While the festivities, including a great feast, were going on, Abraham O. Smoot and Judson Stoddard arrived from Independence, Missouri. They reported to President Brigham Young and other Church leaders that General Harney and 2,000 U.S. troops were on their way to Utah Territory.

The assembled Saints soon learned that President Buchanan had responded to false and misleading stories about the loyalty of Utah Mormons by sending troops west to stop a Mormon "rebellion." Ironically, the initial Pioneer Day Celebration began with a rousing salute to the American flag, the Declaration of Independence, and the United States Constitution.

Patriotic fervor continued in subsequent years, but that year Utah Mormons were forced to prepare for a "Utah War" that would cause considerable distress to area Saints. Fortunately, when the troops arrived, confrontation was averted, and devout pioneers could continue their colonization of the Mountain West—and their annual commemoration of Pioneer Day.

Pioneer Day provided a great opportunity for residents to pride themselves on their accomplishments in their challenging and unique environment. In coming years, the Pioneer Day celebration would be the most significant local holiday in the new Territory of Deseret.

### THE MEETING OF THE RAILS

By 1869, Mormon Pioneers had survived cold winters, crop failures, conflicts with Native Americans, and the "Utah War." Yet nothing seemed to threaten Zion like the coming of the railroad.

Anti-Mormon Gentiles felt the influx of non-LDS settlers and cheaper Eastern goods would overwhelm the Saints politically and economically. Mormon leaders, however, realized the railroad would bring LDS emigrants to Zion in a safer, faster, if not more costly way. They used the construction of the railroad to their advantage. They hired out Mormon labor to help construct some of the most difficult parts of the Union Pacific line through Echo Canyon to Odgen. Mormon leaders realized the railroad would bring change, but it would also increase the economic vitality of Utah and be a useful tool to help spread the gospel message faster and to more people.

The lines of the Central Pacific finally met the Union Pacific on May 10, 1869, at Promontory, Utah. Just over a thousand people gathered that day to watch the meeting of the rails that joined the nation. An Irish

crew from Union Pacific and a Chinese crew from the Central Pacific carried up the final rails. The Chinese crew, surprised by a photograph that was taken, feared for their lives and dropped their rail. Only after a lot of laughter from the crowd and a good deal of coaxing did the men finally finish placing the rail.

Speeches and prayers followed. Then officials drove the last spike home—a golden spike commemorating the historic event. After the ceremony concluded, dozens who wanted a memento of the event began carving up the rail and taking some of the iron spikes that had been placed in the last tie. Utah and the Mormons received great attention as the nation followed the event closely by telegraph.

Mormon involvement with their own rail lines began when Church leaders realized the national line would pass through Utah. While the tracks were being placed through Odgen, Brigham Young and other leaders organized the Utah Central Railroad to run from Salt Lake City to Ogden. Soon after the Transcontinental Line was completed, President Young broke ground on the new rail line. It was completed in 1870.



UTAH AND THE MORMONS RECEIVED NATIONWIDE ATTENTION AS PEOPLE AROUND THE COUNTRY FOLLOWED THE NEWS OF THE MEETING OF THE RAILS. THE CENTRAL PACIFIC AND UNION PACIFIC RAILROADS MET ON MAY 10, 1869, AT PROMONTORY POINT, UTAH.

## OLD FOLKS DAY

Unique Utah celebrations were not limited to commemorations of LDS Church milestones, patriotic commemorations, or local harvest festivals. A Mormon pioneer from the British Isles helped start Old Folks Day, a yearly tradition that lasted several decades honoring the elderly in the community.

C. R. Savage was a prominent pioneer photographer and businessman in Great Salt Lake City. He had a history of concern for the poor and unfortunate. Often Savage arranged for local merchants to sell fuel and food to widows and orphans at reduced rates. Several times he paid for these goods himself and had them anonymously delivered to those in need.

While walking to work each day, Savage noted an elderly neighbor sitting on her porch in a rocking chair, hour after hour. He was especially concerned that this kind widow, like many elderly Utah residents, seemed to have little to enliven her life. Savage decided to honor elderly area residents each year at an "Old Folks Day."

The Presiding Bishop of the Church, Edward Hunter, and several generous merchants supported this idea. Soon, collections of food and prizes and free transportation from the Utah-Western Railroad were secured.



**C. R. SAVAGE (ABOVE), A PROMINENT PIONEER PHOTOGRAPHER AND SALT LAKE CITY BUSINESSMAN, SPEARHEADED THE CELEBRATION OF OLD FOLKS DAY (BELOW).**

On Friday, May 14, 1875, on the southern shores of the Great Salt Lake, the first Old Folks Day was held. There was a program, a fine dinner, and a two-hour ride aboard the City of Corrine steamship.

Old Folks Day celebrations continued in Great Salt Lake City and soon spread throughout the Territory. They were open to all elderly citizens, without regard to race or religion. While the day the event was held varied from year to year, activities almost always consisted of entertainment and food with honors bestowed on those who had lived the longest and deserved special merit for their life's accomplishments.

## AMERICA'S CENTENNIAL

The 1876 Centennial gave Mormons a chance to celebrate and demonstrate their loyalty to America. On July 4, 1876, almost all Utah citizens awoke to sounds of musket shots. The celebration that followed included brass bands, readings of the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, and great community feasts.

In Providence, Utah, they held a dance. Sponsors were pleased that nothing stronger than strawberry juice was served. Paragonah's celebration included a parade featuring 13 young ladies who represented





THROUGH THE YEARS, PARADES HAVE BEEN A FAVORITE FORM OF CELEBRATION. HERE PARADE-WATCHERS AND PARADE PARTICIPANTS CELEBRATE IN A SEMI-CENTENNIAL MARCH.

each of the 13 original states. Parowan residents enjoyed an arch made out of evergreen boughs and flowers. Moroni residents assembled a choir to serenade their bishop and Elder Orson Hyde. Mount Pleasant residents hosted a pageant that reenacted Columbus' arrival in America.

Many Salt Lake residents left town for trips up nearby canyons or on railroad excursions to popular local resorts. Utah's residents may not have been treated well at all times by the federal government, but their actions on days like America's Centennial holiday proved they were no less loyal to it.

#### **GOLDEN JUBILEE**

Many challenges confronted the Church and its Saints in 1880. President John Taylor faced the daunting task of leading the Church while it was under intense pressure from the federal government over the issue of plural marriage. The Saints faced tremendous hostility, including both political and physical persecution. A missionary had been killed in cold blood in Georgia only a year earlier, and his murderer had gone free. The ongoing challenges of establishing and maintaining Mormon settlements continued. And yet, the Saints found many, many reasons to rejoice.

One great cause for celebration was the Golden Jubilee of the founding of the Church. April 6, 1880,

marked 50 years since The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints had been organized in Fayette, New York. Despite all the persecutions and problems that plagued the Saints, Zion was strong! Thousands upon thousands had found joy in living the principles of the gospel.

The April general conference that year focused a great deal on the Jubilee. President John Taylor set the spirit of the Jubilee by reminding Saints that as in Israel of old, people should forgive the debts owed them by others. The Church set the pattern by forgiving half the debts owed to it by worthy Latter-Day Saints. Over \$800,000 was forgiven in outstanding loans to the Perpetual Emigration Fund. Church leaders distributed Church-owned cattle and sheep to the poor. They also forgave unpaid tithing, and Relief Society sisters shared grain they had stored earlier with farmers who were facing economic hardships.

"If you find people owing you who are distressed, if you will go to work and try to relieve them as much as you can, under the circumstances, God will relieve you when you get into difficulties," President Taylor admonished the Saints.

Jubilee celebrations continued throughout 1880, providing Saints an opportunity to reflect on the past 50 years of challenges and growth that they had faced as Church members.

### THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT GRANT

One celebration would have accomplished more good for Mormon settlers if it had occurred in 1869 rather than 1875. During October of the latter year, President Ulysses S. Grant and the First Lady, Julia Grant, paid a short visit to Odgen and Salt Lake City. Non-Mormon federal officials dominated much of Grant's time in the state. However, Grant and his wife met several Latter-Day Saints, including President Brigham Young and other Church leaders and their wives.

A special train carried President Grant from Odgen to Salt Lake City. Thousands greeted the President upon his arrival in Utah's capital city. Hundreds of neatly dressed Primary children lined up along the street to give the nation's Chief Executive a pleasant greeting. President Grant asked to whom these children belonged. He learned from Territorial Governor Emery that they were Mormon youth.

The President remarked he had been deceived about the Mormon people. He was impressed with their clean demeanor and industriousness. Grant and his wife paid a visit to the recently completed Tabernacle. Mrs. Grant spent time listening to the the beautiful organ music. She too made favorable comments on her impressions of the Mormons. It was a successful pioneer celebration.



Unfortunately, President Grant's time in office was coming to a close. Earlier visits to Utah by Grant's favorite minister and his Vice President, Schuyler Colfax, had been hosted by rabid anti-Mormons. These two had helped fuel much of the anti-Mormon sentiment in Washington D.C. and the nation during President Grant's term.

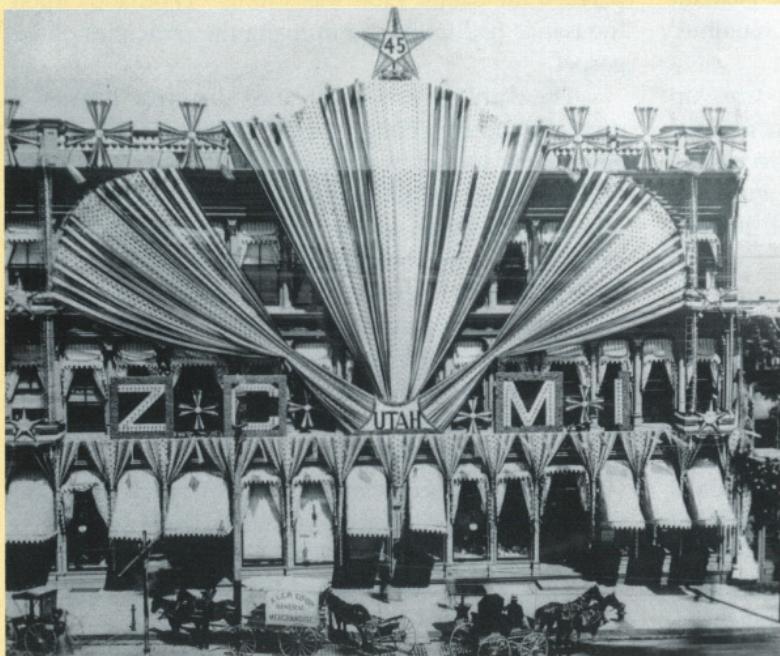
### STATEHOOD!

After several failed attempts, Utah was finally granted statehood on January 4, 1896. No formal ceremony took place in Washington, D.C. In fact, President Grover Cleveland did not even allow a small delegation from Utah to watch as he signed the statehood proclamation. They learned the signing had taken place while waiting in the Oval Office lobby.

Once they learned Utah was a state, they immediately telegraphed the word to anxious Utah residents. Forty-nine years had passed since the original pioneers entered the Valley. Now Utahns, as residents of an officially recognized state, would finally be treated as equals. Most Utahns were thrilled with statehood status, and when word came it was official, they celebrated!

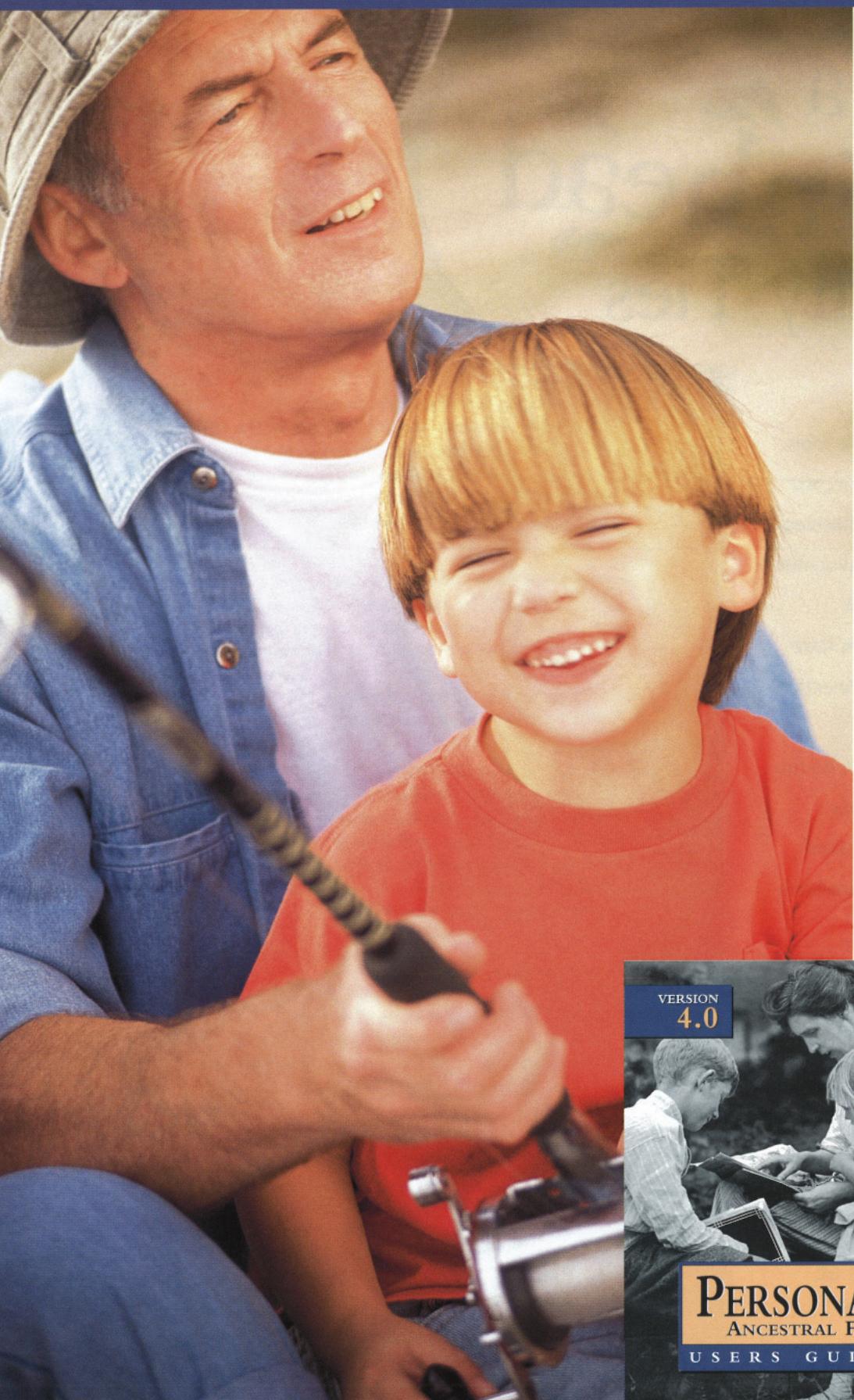
A grand ceremony was held in the Tabernacle for a packed crowd. ZCMI made a huge flag for the occasion. It contained 1,296 yards of bunting and was designed so that Utah's 45th star was cut out; the light from five 32-candlepower electric lights shone through the hole. The new governor, 36-year-old Heber M. Wells, addressed the crowd. A great band played and the Tabernacle Choir sang.

The Statehood Day ceremony marked the end of an era. More so than any other event, even the end of the century in 1899, achieving statehood divided specific Utah historical eras. The pioneer and territorial era came to an end as Utah celebrated acceptance by the rest of the United States. Utahns uniquely celebrated statehood as they did other epic events—with music, speeches, patriotic sentiment, and appreciation to a Heavenly Father who had blessed them greatly. ▼



UTAH RESIDENTS CELEBRATED IN GRAND STYLE WHEN THEY RECEIVED WORD ON JANUARY 4, 1896, THAT THE STATE HAD OFFICIALLY BEEN GRANTED STATEHOOD.

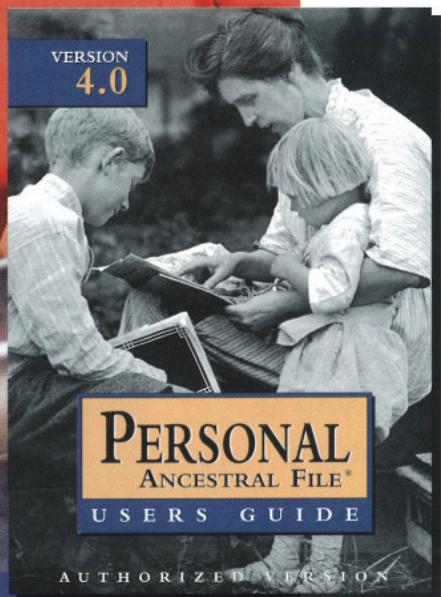
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The reasons *Pioneer* has lasted for so long are many. First, the publication represents an outstanding organization, a brotherhood of men committed to honoring and remembering a legacy left behind by men and women who sacrificed much so we could live better lives today. Sons of Utah Pioneers is one of those rare organizations that celebrate things that are much more important than red ink and black ink and the bottom line. SUP cares most about the things that last much longer than assets and

liabilities. SUP cares about people, those who lived a hundred years ago and those who live today.

Second, *Pioneer* endures because of its enduring content. The publication looks at topics and people and events that are timeless and priceless. Its point of view is unique, its approach is creative, and its purpose is eternal.

So, all that said and done, the cost of a subscription to *Pioneer* and/or membership in SUP translates into one of the best investments you could make. What it might cost for an evening out could buy a year's worth of worthwhile reading and friendships that last beyond time. Take a moment today to renew your subscription and membership; if you already have, then consider giving a *Pioneer* subscription to others who appreciate the same values and traditions that you treasure. *Pioneer* is a gift enjoyed far beyond the holiday season.

I do wish you the happiest of holiday seasons, and hope the new year and new millennium hold for each of you what you dream of most.

*Kellene Ricks Adams*

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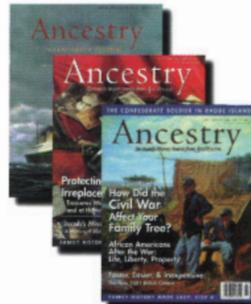
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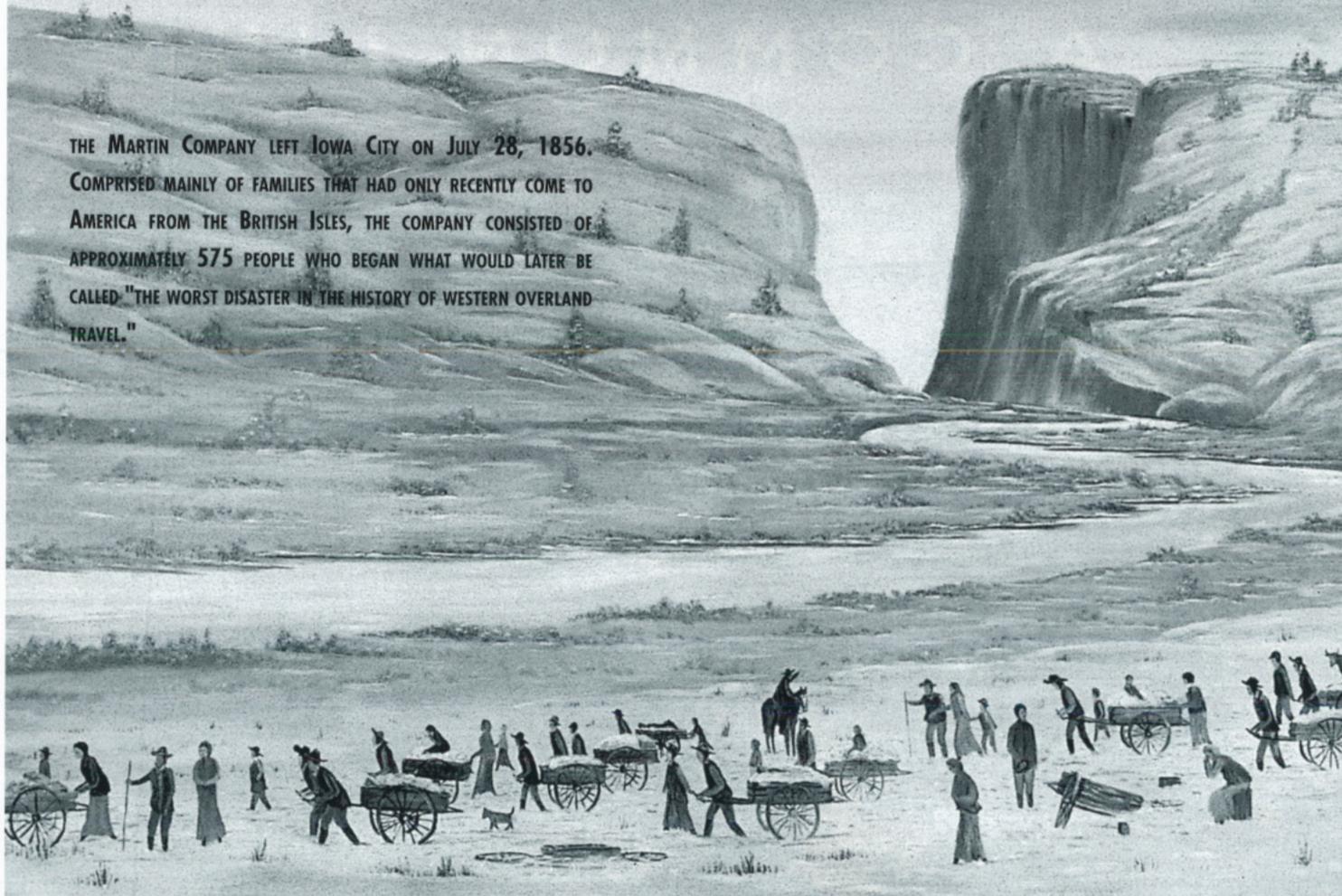
# A COMMON LINK

## HOW ONE FAMILY CAME TOGETHER

BY LORI HOFMANN

**I**N 1856, THE MARTIN HANDCART COMPANY BECAME THE FIFTH MAJOR GROUP TO TRAVEL TO THE SALT LAKE VALLEY AS PART OF THE WESTWARD EXPANSION OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS. BECAUSE THE COST OF A COVERED WAGON AND TEAM WAS BEYOND THE MEANS OF MANY SAINTS, THE TRAVELERS BUILT THEIR OWN HANDCARTS,

WINTER 1999 21



THE MARTIN COMPANY LEFT IOWA CITY ON JULY 28, 1856. COMPRISED MAINLY OF FAMILIES THAT HAD ONLY RECENTLY COME TO AMERICA FROM THE BRITISH ISLES, THE COMPANY CONSISTED OF APPROXIMATELY 575 PEOPLE WHO BEGAN WHAT WOULD LATER BE CALLED "THE WORST DISASTER IN THE HISTORY OF WESTERN OVERLAND TRAVEL."

and the Martin Company left Iowa City on July 28, 1856. Comprised mainly of families that had only recently come to America from the British Isles, the company consisted of approximately 575 people who began what would later be called "the worst disaster in the history of western overland travel."<sup>1</sup>

The first stop on the company's long trek was the town of Florence, Nebraska, about 275 miles from the starting point. They arrived at the post on August 22, 1856, and stayed for only three days—just long enough to load their carts with more substantial provisions.

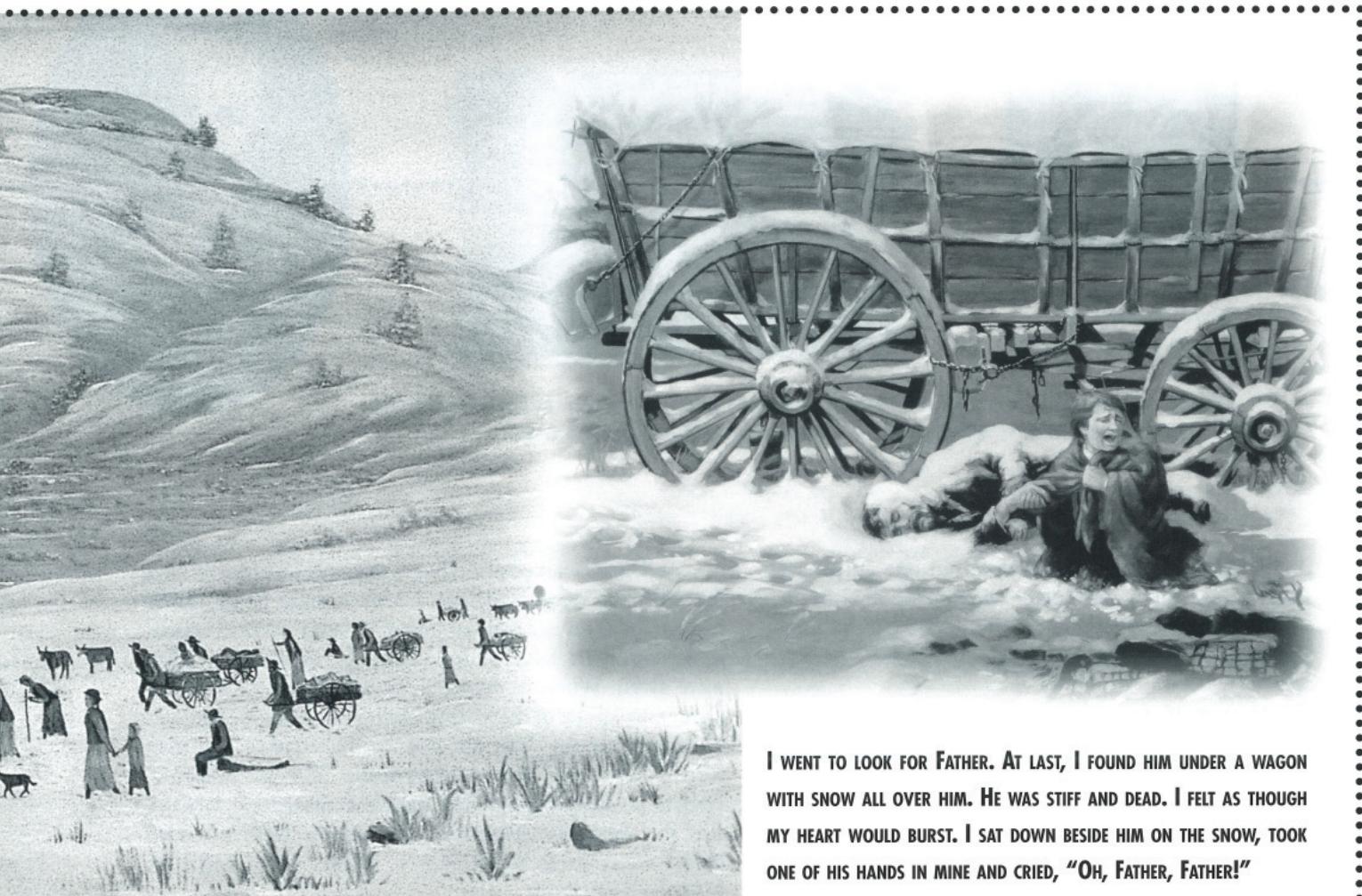
Although it was quite late in the year to continue such a long trip, they chose to move on. The words of Brigham Young echoed in their minds: "We will extend our settlements to the east and to the west, to the north and to the south, and we will build towns and cities by the hundreds, and thousands of Saints will gather in from the nations of the earth. This will become the great highway of nations."<sup>2</sup> Tragically, the company would not arrive in the Salt Lake Valley until November 30, 1856, after more than one-sixth of the group had perished and dozens more had been maimed or seriously injured by adverse weather, starvation, and exhaustion.

### THE PLIGHT OF THE McBRIDES

One of the intrepid pioneers present on this ill-fated mission was Robert Heber McBride. He had brought his wife and five children from their homeland of Scotland through England to join his fellow Saints in the Americas. Though his youngest daughter was only two years old, he felt that the family should follow the counsel of the prophet and travel to Salt Lake.

As they prepared to leave, Robert sought out one of the General Authorities for advice on this weighty decision. In the course of their meeting, he was promised that he would have great generations of posterity and that his name would be preserved for many years. Feeling at peace, the McBrides gathered what belongings they could and joined the Martin Company just before it set off in July.

Progress was slow—more than three-fourths of the group were women, children, and elderly members, and even at their best, the company averaged only around nine miles per day. In mid-autumn, despite all efforts at rationing, the food supply was running dangerously low. As colder temperatures and early winter storms set in, the group was beset with sickness and frostbite. Few had brought adequate clothing for the chilly weather, and



**I WENT TO LOOK FOR FATHER. AT LAST, I FOUND HIM UNDER A WAGON WITH SNOW ALL OVER HIM. HE WAS STIFF AND DEAD. I FELT AS THOUGH MY HEART WOULD BURST. I SAT DOWN BESIDE HIM ON THE SNOW, TOOK ONE OF HIS HANDS IN MINE AND CRIED, "OH, FATHER, FATHER!"**

without enough food to sustain them, several members died and were buried along the way. Among these casualties was Robert McBride; his wife, Margaret, had also become desperately ill and nearly unable to continue the journey.

#### **"OH, FATHER, FATHER!"**

Heber, the oldest son in the McBride clan, was essentially left to take care of his family and ensure that they reached their destination. In his journal, he records the death of his father:

"The evening we crossed the Platte River for the last time was very cold. The next morning there was about 6 inches of snow on the ground. What we had to suffer can never be told. Father was very bad that morning; he could hardly sit up in the tent. We had to travel that day through the snow and I managed to get Father into one of the wagons that morning. That was the last we saw of him alive.

"We only made one drive, as it began to snow very hard. When we camped, the snow was getting very deep. My sister and I had to pitch our tent and get some wood, but as there were plenty of dry willows along the river, this was not hard.

"After we had made Mother as comfortable as we could, we went to try to find Father. The wind was blowing the snow so bad, we could not see anything and the wagons had not yet come into camp. It was then after dark, so we did not find him that night. The next morning, the snow was about 18 inches deep, and awfully cold. While my sister was preparing our little bit of breakfast, I went to look for Father. At last, I found him under a wagon with snow all over him. He was stiff and dead. I felt as though my heart would burst. I sat down beside him on the snow, took one of his hands in mine and cried, 'Oh, Father, Father!' There we were, away out on the plains, with hardly anything to eat, Father dead, and Mother sick and a widow with five small children, and not hardly able to live from one day to the next. After I had my cry out, I went back to the tent to tell Mother. To try and write or tell the feelings of Mother and the other children is out of the question.

"We were not the only family called to mourn the loss of a father, for there were 13 dead men in camp. The men that were able to do anything, cleared off the snow, and made a fire to thaw out the ground. They



Above: Father of Robert Heber McBride.



Robert's oldest son, Heber, found his father frozen under a wagon. His sister, Janetta McBride Ferrin (above right), was 16 at the time of their father's death.



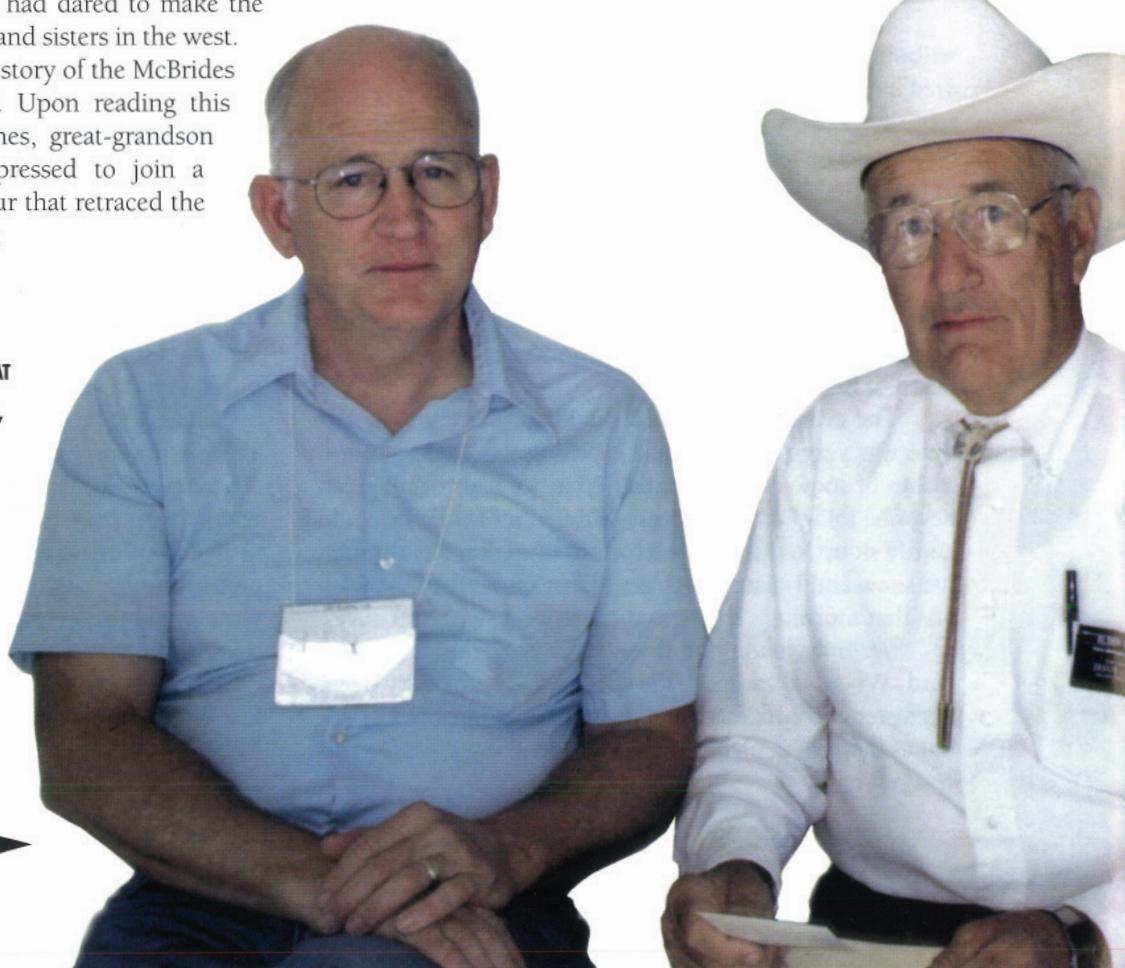
dug a big hole and buried them all in one grave...we never knew how Father died; whether he died in the wagon, and was lifted out, or whether he got out himself and fell exhausted, and froze to death."

### FINDING KIN

Through great perseverance, the rest of the McBride family reached Salt Lake with what remained of the Martin Company at the end of November. The Saints celebrated their arrival with somberness—more than 145 of the original group had not survived the trek—but all knew the dedication and determination of the courageous souls who had dared to make the journey to join their brothers and sisters in the west.

Over 140 years later, the story of the McBrides is still a touching narrative. Upon reading this inspiring account, David Innes, great-grandson of Heber McBride, felt impressed to join a Church Education System tour that retraced the steps of the Martin Company.

As David walked the places where his ancestors had passed many decades before, he felt a sense of profound respect for their accomplishments in such adverse conditions and their faith in following the instructions they were given. When he reached the Martin's Cove Visitors' Center, he spoke of his feelings with a missionary who was serving at the site with his wife. To his surprise, the man turned out to be the great-grandson of Peter McBride, Heber's younger brother. An instant camaraderie formed, and the men discussed their forefathers' trek at length before separating to attend a fireside that night at Independence Rock.

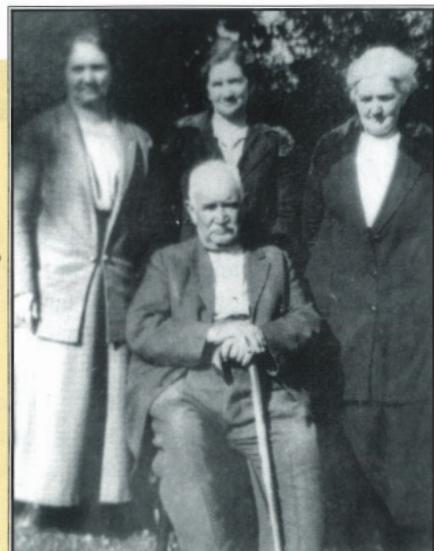


**WHILE VISITING THE VISITORS' CENTER AT MARTIN'S COVE, DAVID INNES (RIGHT), ROBERT HEBER MCBRIDE'S GREAT-GRANDSON, FOUND HIMSELF BEING INTRODUCED TO DALLAS PENROD (FAR RIGHT), GREAT-GRANDSON OF ETHER ENOS MCBRIDE—A BROTHER IN THE ORIGINAL CLAN. BROTHER PENROD WAS SERVING AN LDS CHURCH MISSION AT THE CENTER.**



After arriving in the Salt Lake Valley, Robert's widow, Margaret Howard McBride, married Samuel Ferrin.

Another brother in the original clan, Ether McBride, is pictured to the right, along with his three daughters.



As the fireside began, David realized that much of the presentation given at the historic monument focused on his family's involvement with the pioneer movement. At the conclusion of the meeting, he eagerly sought out the missionary whom he had met earlier in the day.

He discovered him speaking with another man in the shadows near Independence Rock, and as he approached, David found himself being introduced to the great-grandson of Ether McBride, another brother in the original clan. The elation of the small group could scarcely be contained, and they spent hours recounting their amazing heritage together.

#### TIME AND TECHNOLOGY UNITING A FAMILY

It was immediately decided that a reunion needed to be held to bring all of the descendants back to the place that held so much history for their family. There was only one obstacle—by this time, the prophecy given to Robert McBride had begun to be realized, and more than 6,000 people had McBride blood flowing through their veins. How could such a large group even be informed of the reunion, let alone the problem of accommodating them all?

David Innes knew of a way. His son and daughter-in-law were familiar with the technology available on the World Wide Web, and they recommended that he use an Internet company called MyFamily.com to build a family website. By doing so, he could reach unlimited amounts of people in a simple, fast, effective manner.

MyFamily.com sites are free, and users can upload family pictures and documents, create news stories, work on family histories, post favorite recipes and reviews for others to share, view and add events to a family calendar, shop for gifts and make their own wish lists, check on current events, and much more.

Once David had registered for his site and created content for it, he sent invitations to other family

members, asking them to explore the information posted there and to invite other relatives to do the same. Although he admits to being less than "computer literate," David remarks that just working on the McBride site gets him "excited about the possibilities—it is very easy to enter information, and I am especially pleased about the format of the news features."

As the chain of information adds more and more links, the size of the reunion continues to grow. The McBride reunion is scheduled for July 13-16, 2000, at Martin's Cove, and a large turnout is expected. The family has arranged for 250 campsites in the area just outside the visitors' center, and plans are currently in the works to create a memorial to the rich pioneer heritage that the McBrides share.

From the promise made to one man many years ago, a long line of valiant men and women has emerged, and they will now have the opportunity to get to know one another and to cement their family bond. Robert McBride would be proud to see that the sacrifices he and his family made on their long westward journey have produced such marvelous results. With the aid of time and technology, perhaps the new millennium will bring the McBrides together as a close-knit clan once again. ▼

*Paintings by Olinda H. Reynolds were commissioned for the Visitors' Center at Martin's Cove.*

1. Bell, Stella Jaques, *Life History and Writings of John Jaques*, Rexburg, ID: Ricks College Press, 1978, 62-117.
2. Brown, James S., *Life of a Pioneer; the Autobiography of James S. Brown*, 1900, 121-122.
3. McBride, Bruce L. & David B., *Against Great Odds: The Story of the McBride Family*, Anaheim, CA: KNI Incorporated, 1988.

## PIIONEER

**MyFamily.com** is the leading online service offering families a rich communication experience for keeping in touch and strengthening families. So how does this family site apply to major organizations such as the Sons of Utah Pioneers?

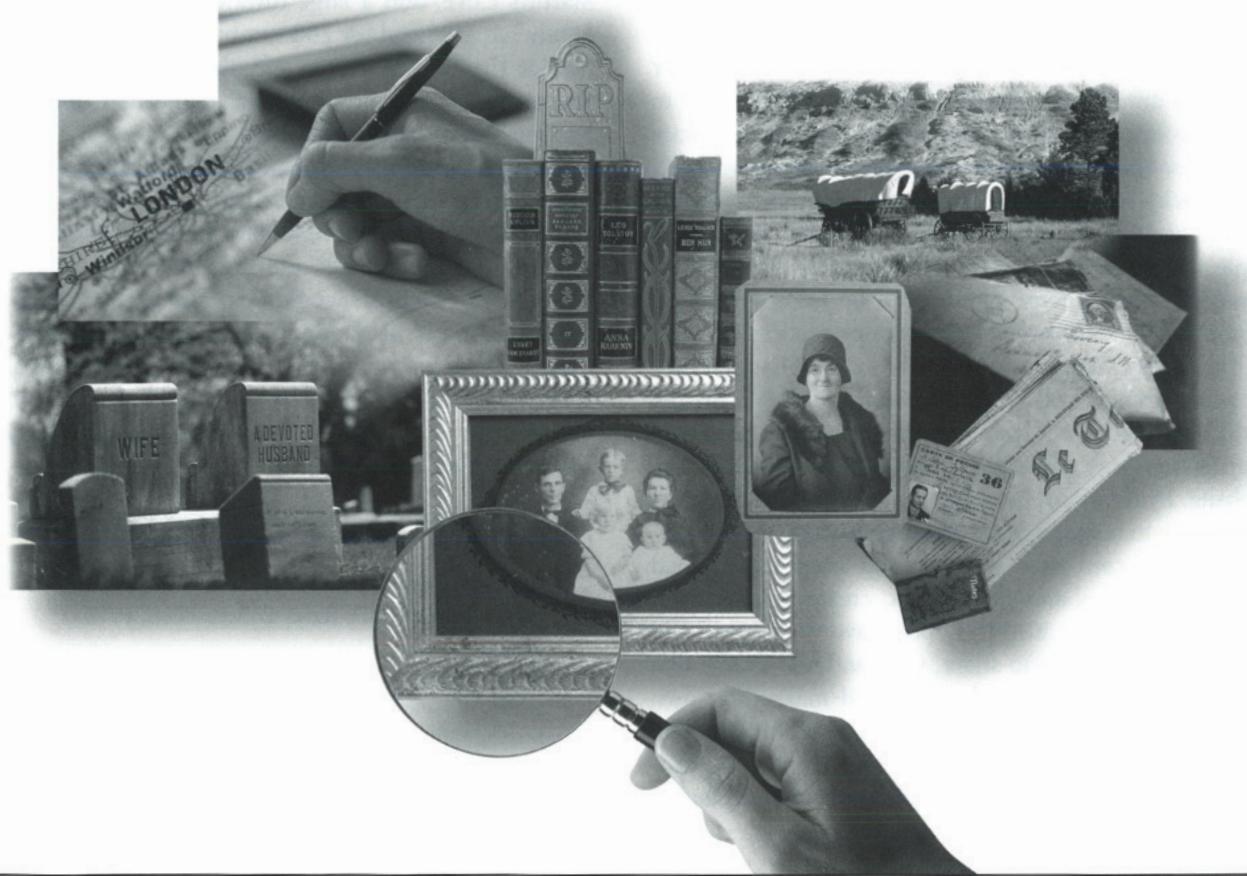
While MyFamily.com was initially developed to facilitate the needs of long-distance communication between families, organizations such as Boy Scout troops, civic organizations, and even genealogy societies have used the new site to effectively communicate with their members. Like these organizations, Sons of Utah Pioneers can utilize the features of the site to enhance communication between members. Various features of MyFamily.com provide the means to post news items, keep track of chapter events, and even participate in online discussions.

The site's news feature allows SUP members to easily share news items with each other and even reply to previous messages if necessary. Also, each MyFamily.com site has a private calendar that will keep members informed of chapter activities and events. Any member can schedule meetings, conferences, and informal and formal gatherings on the calendar. Messages can automatically be sent to notify members when a news item has been placed on the site; messages can

also remind members of important upcoming events. Chatting with members via the web is also easily facilitated through MyFamily.com; using "Who's Online," members can enter a private chat area and hold group discussions.

Recent additions to the features of the MyFamily.com site include "quick-post" forms and address/phone number databases. The forms give members the ability to add messages or schedule chats from the main page of the organization's site. This feature allows easy and quick access to major features from the front page. Also keeping track of addresses and phone numbers is easy through the MyFamily.com site—a wonderful feature for SUP chapters with busy members and large databases that are always changing.

MyFamily.com offers all the online conveniences necessary for any organization to communicate effectively with each member—all at no cost. The possibilities are endless, and the staff at MyFamily.com is committed to making every "family's" experience on the site valuable and productive—whether your "family" includes Grandma and all the cousins or numerous members of a major historical organization like the Sons of Utah Pioneers. ▼



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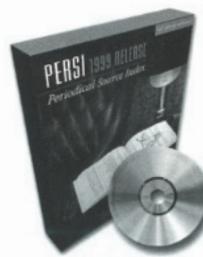
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# Pioneer

## A PIONEER CHRISTMAS IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, IDAHO

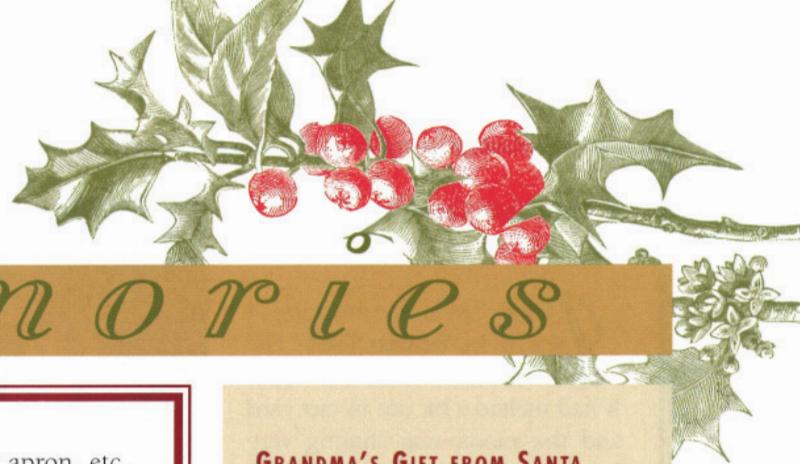
By Amanda West Nash

My earliest recollection of Christmas in the 1880s was when the little town of Preston was young and consisted of one ward. Our only place of meeting was a one-room building located on Main Street. The homes were widely scattered, thus making it necessary for the people to travel some distance. Those who had no means of transportation were invited by their neighbors to ride. Often at Christmas time the snow was three feet deep, and our only way of travel was by team and sleigh. Our family had a two-seated cutter built by my grandfather, Augustus Canfield. My father was a good horseman and had fine horses always well groomed. What a thrill it was to ride over the snow with sleigh bells jingling, keeping time to the rhythm of the horses' feet!

Christmas time was a very busy season. There was much to be done as everything we had was made by our own hands. The stores carried only the bare necessities. We grew the pop corn that was made into balls and long chains to decorate the Christmas tree. Our candy was made from molasses which we obtained from neighbors

*Pioneers reminisce  
about Christmases past in  
these excerpts from Heart  
Throbs of the West*

# ever Memories



who raised the cane and made it into molasses. Other delicacies were home made doughnuts which we were all willing to assist in the making, and pies made from the apples and pumpkins we had grown ourselves.

The day before Christmas, a large tree was set up in the meeting house and decorated with strings of pop corn, paper chains, colored pop corn balls, gingerbread men with currant buttons on their vests, and rag dolls and gingham animals stuffed with sawdust.

About ten o'clock in the morning, everyone met at the meeting house bringing their picnic lunches, for it would be late afternoon before they would return home. After a splendid program in which almost everyone had a part, Santa Claus appeared and distributed the gifts. He called the name written on the package and that person came forward and received the gift. One gift that caused a great deal of merriment was a two-pound lard bucket filled with good old-fashioned bread and milk.

Everyone knew that this man was fond of bread and milk, so they all joined in the fun. He dished out a portion of the treat and gave it to some tiny twins in the audience, then he proceeded to devour the remainder amid jokes and laughter.

Other gifts consisted of such articles as scarfs, caps, mittens, ear muffs, wristlets, and socks which were usually knitted—

often a new dress or apron, etc. Most everything was useful in some way.

After the program, the children had a Christmas dance. This was a square dance or quadrille in which the parents assisted them in making the different changes. We had wonderful music by one of our good citizens who played the accordion with great skill and seemed never to tire. This music was the crowning glory of all the celebrations we had in the early days, and to his closing days, he played the accordion whenever requested.

After the day's celebration, the older children were taken home and tucked snugly in their beds and the parents hurried through their chores and returned to the meeting house for their dance, taking the young babies back with them. They put them to bed on benches and made them comfortable with overcoats and blankets. I, being one of the older children, was permitted to watch the babies and see that none of them rolled onto the floor; and, if any of them cried, I would call their mother. This was my first experience as "baby sitter" and how I did love the job!

When the dance was over, which was usually pretty late, they went in groups to different homes and had a midnight snack. All considered the day well spent and were thankful for the many blessings they enjoyed in this peaceful country.

## GRANDMA'S GIFT FROM SANTA

By Winnifred Loosle

*I*t was a cold, winter's night, and a very good night to be inside. I found my grandmother, Catherine Heggie Griffiths, seated by the fireplace,



and asked her to fix my doll. Grandmother took my doll in her hands, and said, "This is much different than the doll I use to have." Her eyes wandered to where a China doll head reposed in a box with a glass lid. The head had the face of a queen, with its blue eyes and clear cut features. The yellow hair was waved back smoothly, earrings were on the dainty ears, and a necklace with a golden cross hung round its neck.

Grandmother said, "I was the happiest girl in the world, when I got that doll head for Christmas. My mother promised she would make a doll body for it right away, but there were other things more important than dolls that had to be looked after first. There were stockings to knit, cloth to be woven, and butter to be churned, and many other every-day tasks that had to be looked after, so after a while I made a rag doll for myself and was contented just to look at my doll head once in a while."

## A CHRISTMAS INCIDENT

By Ariel Warren Perry

*J*t was Christmas morning at 4 a.m. in the year 1885. The ground was covered with snow. It had melted a bit out in our yard and the moon was shining very bright. My brothers, Willy, Jesse, and I, thinking it was morning, got out of bed to see if old Santa Claus had been there and found our stockings that were tacked to the window sill.

We were all thrilled to see that he had come and had filled our stockings. I found my first big doll and a small jewel box. The lid had a little Red Riding Hood fig-



ure with the big gray wolf attached to it. The boys found a tool box, and the baby found a little toy horse with a cart fastened to it—when the wheels went round a bell would ring. He would run and play

with it and then we would all run with him.

We decided we would take our baby brother for a ride in the snow. We went in our nightgowns and took turns riding on mother's rocking chair—one pushing the other. Mother prized the chair very much. It was one Stephen C. Perry had made. He was an early pioneer. The wind began to blow and we were cold, so we went inside and enjoyed eating candy and nuts; then we began to run and play around mother's kitchen stove. As we were running my baby brother two and a half years old fell and cut his forehead on the bench. Mother bandaged him and put us all to bed until morning.

## WHEN SANTA WAS LATE

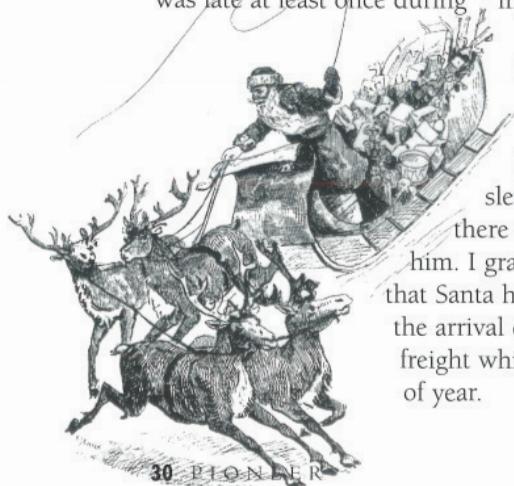
By Edith Hinton Gibson

*W*hoever heard of Santa Claus being two or three days late in his yearly visits to the eager children who have been on their best behavior for weeks in anticipation of the greatest event of the year? We had heard of trains being late; of crops that matured late; of being late for school, but for Santa Claus to loiter on his way—that was unbelievable. Yet it really happened when I was a little girl.

I lived in a the small town of Virgin, almost one hundred miles from the nearest railroad station. All of our supplies, which we did not produce on our farms and in our gardens, had to be hauled by team and covered wagon from Milford, and it took four or five days each way to make the trip over rough roads, through canyons and over mountains in all kinds of weather. Sometimes loads of badly needed supplies for the stores would be delayed for days because of the snow or mud. That was why Santa was late at least once during my childhood. I could not

understand at that time why the weather and the long haul should delay

Santa Claus, because he came by reindeer and sleigh—and the more snow there was, the better it was for him. I gradually learned, however, that Santa had to time his visits with the arrival of the loads of Christmas freight which were due at that time of year.



LAVERKIN'S  
FIRST CHRISTMAS

By Sara  
S. Sanders

*B*ishop Wilson hauled a cedar tree in from the foothills. The butt of the tree was thrust into a hub of a wagon wheel which served as a stand.

The committee decorated the Christmas tree with threaded pop-corn, pop-corn balls, colorful home-made paper chains and wax candles. They bought mosquito netting from the Isom Store in Virgin City and made bags which were crammed with nuts and candy as presents for the children.

They invited Jim Cornelius of Virgin City to ride down and act as Santa. . . .

The eyes of the children sparkled when the candles were lit and the program was presented. Then Old Santa appeared to distribute the sacks of candy and nuts. His cotton beard caught on fire while he was removing the candy from the tree. Mrs. Joseph Gubler began clawing the burning cotton from Old Santa and scratched his face. Although Santa lost his disguise, no serious injury was caused and everyone enjoyed the party like one big happy family. ▼

## NEW MEMBERS

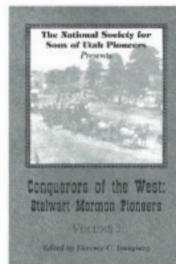
Merle E. Allen (OP)  
 Hardy L. Anderson (AL)  
 Arvil Armitstead (JRT)  
 Linden H. Belnap (OP)  
 Don O. Boulden  
 William Clark Bowles (JRT)  
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 Glenn L. Butterfield (AL)  
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 Alan Ensign Chapman (AL)  
 Richard Alston Chapman (AL)  
 Wesley D. Christensen (USRV)  
 Don F. Colvin (OP)  
 Ted Combe (OP)  
 Russell D. Cope (Mills)  
 Jon Eliason (Har)  
 Ernest Kent Farley (JRT)  
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 Leland C. Grant (OP)  
 M. Norman Gubler (HV)  
 Kim Dattage Hansen (AL)  
 Steve Harmsen  
 Quinton S. Harris (Mills)  
 Ervin George Heslop (OP)  
 Harold Harrison Hiskey (CC)  
 Jordan M. Hughes  
 Preston Hunt  
 Kent Johnson (TQ)  
 Russell T. Johnson (BY)  
 Harl E. Judd (CC)

Blaine J. Kay (SD)  
 William E. Kettley (SLC)  
 Mark J. Lindberg (SC)  
 Leonard W. Longhurst (OP)  
 Stanley Hatch McAllister (SC)  
 Cyrus M. McKell (TP)  
 John P. Mathews (OP)  
 Monty Maughan (AL)  
 David Millburn (SC)  
 Nathaniel W. Naegle (AL)  
 Kevin Kirk Nelson (AL)  
 Lynn Nielson (CC)  
 Alan John Peterson (MV)  
 John Potter (AL)  
 Lyn Prestwich (CC)  
 William Raymond (Hur)  
 Reed J. Reeve (HA)  
 Samuel J. Rino (Mills)  
 Glen Rowland (AL)  
 Evan Nish Rudd (Mur)  
 James M. Rushforth (SD)  
 William Van Sanders (BV)  
 Leland R. Saunders (OP)  
 William V. Skinner (AL)  
 Larry Leroy Smith (AL)  
 William S. Snarr (Me)  
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 Vernal J. Taysom  
 John Mahoney Tippets (AL)  
 Holger B. Tychsen (SC)  
 Tom Van Leeuwen (AL)  
 Tom Whitaker (AL)  
 W. Bruce Woodruff (Mills)  
 John B. Woolf (AL)

## JUST IN TIME FOR THE NEW YEAR!

SUP offers two wonderful reading suggestions for the new year—delightful options that provide hours of reading pleasure.

### CONQUERORS OF THE WEST



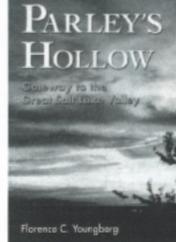
This four-volume set tells the story of a people driven by an unquenchable need to find freedom.

Courage and commitment drove these men, women, and children, who faced incredible hardship, deprivation, sickness, and death. Of course, there was some dancing, romance, and joy thrown in for good measure!

This set contains 1,500 short histories, plus valuable genealogical information. These are stories that symbolize the commitment and sacrifice it took to build the west.

A fascinating look at the way it once was, Conquerors of the West will become favorites. Don't forget to order a set for yourself as well!

### PARLEY'S HOLLOW: Gateway to the Great Salt Lake Valley



Included in this book is much of the history that took place in what is now called Parley's Hollow at the mouth of Parley's Canyon. This stretch of land became the main thoroughfare into the Salt Lake Valley for many of the early settlers; later the trail became a national highway.

The book tells of people, industry, agriculture, parks, prisons, mills, wildlife, plants, and much more, covering from 1849 to present day. Also available is a companion booklet, a color piece that updates the reader on that area as we see it today.

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By Florence Youngberg

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By Florence Youngberg

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Save shipping and pick up the books at Sons of Utah Pioneers headquarters—3301 E. 2920 South Salt Lake City, UT 84109 (801) 484-4441

## Chapter Eternal

In loving memory of our SUP brothers who have recently joined their pioneer forbears on the other side of the veil.

Pioneer rejoices in the lives of these good men and extends its sympathies and good wishes to families and loved ones.

**Ray Alston**, Member at Large  
**Russell Archibald**, Carmichael, CA  
 Sierra Chapter  
**Dr. Allen Billeter**, Member at Large  
**Lyle Coleman**, Sacramento, CA  
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**John L. Crossley**, Ogden, UT  
 Ogden Pioneer Chapter  
**Grant R. Dalton**, Murray, UT  
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**Heber M. Ellsworth**, Sacramento, CA  
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**John A. Larsen**, Salt Lake City, UT  
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**Mancer Vaught**, Placerville, CA  
 Sierra Chapter  
**Gerald Webb**, Draper, UT  
 Temple Quarry  
**Walter Wilson Willey**, Bountiful, UT  
 South Davis Chapter  
**Everett D. Wood**, Member at Large

# A Highly Inspired Technology

Through the years, many religious leaders have affirmed that technological advances are being guided by God to be used for His purposes. Of course, they explain, evil forces use the technology too. The key, then, is to ensure that we use the high-tech tools we find at our fingertips for good and moral purposes.

The Lord has inspired skilled men and women in developing new technologies which we can use to our great advantage in moving forward this sacred work. (President Gordon B. Hinckley, "Technology Helps Church Spread Gospel," *Church News*, May 29, 1999, p. 5.)

The role of technology in [family history] work has been accelerated by the Lord Himself, who has had a guiding hand in its development and will continue to do so. . . . However, we stand only on the threshold of what we can do with these tools. I feel our most enthusiastic projections capture only a tiny glimpse of how these tools can help us and of the eternal consequences of these efforts. (President Howard W. Hunter

*during the centennial celebration of the Genealogical Society of Utah in 1994.)*



In years past, much of the effort to research family histories and record family information was devoted to the mechanics of record keeping. Now we are using technology to connect users with information. (Richard E. Turley, Jr., managing director of the Church Family History and the Church Historical Departments.)

The computer in its various ramifications is accelerating [family history work], and people are taking advantage of the new techniques being offered to them. How can one escape the conclusion that the Lord is in all of this? (President Hinckley, "Welcome to Conference," *Ensign*, November 1999, pp. 4-5.)

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EDITORIAL

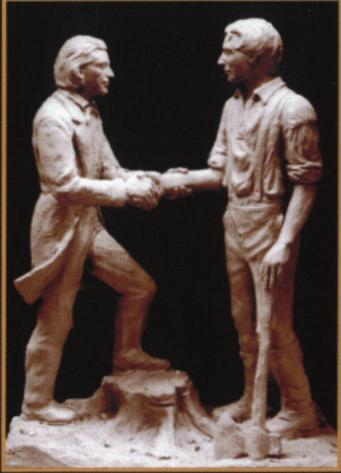
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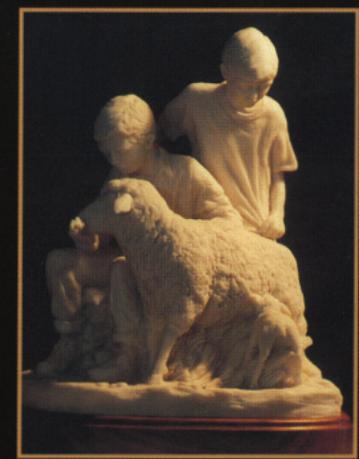
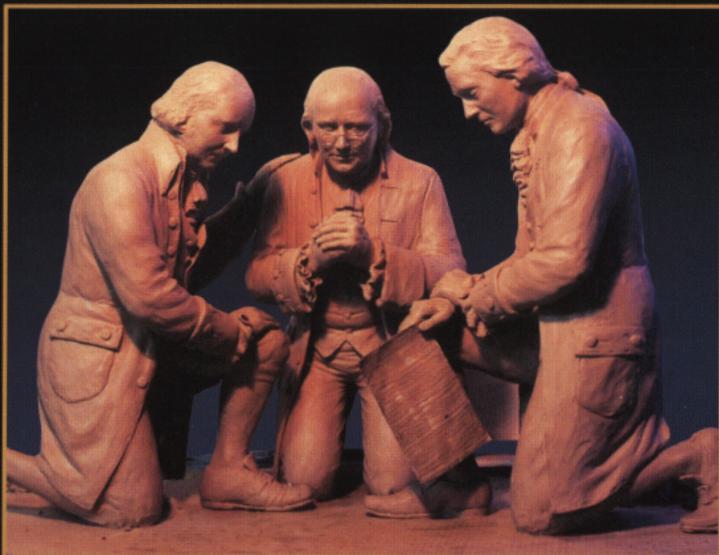
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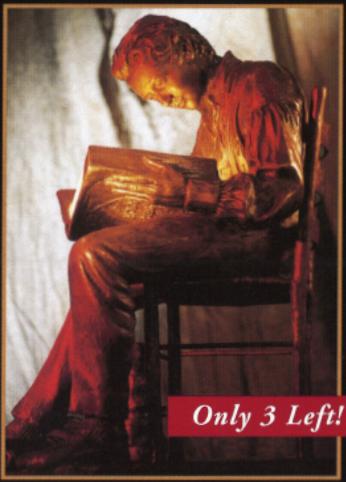
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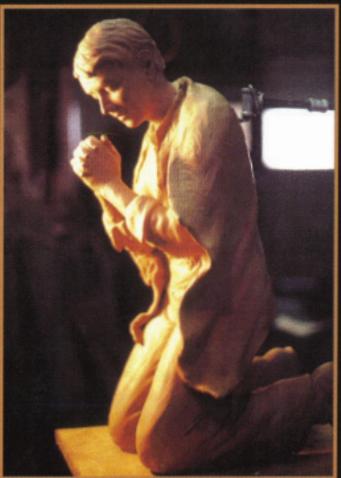
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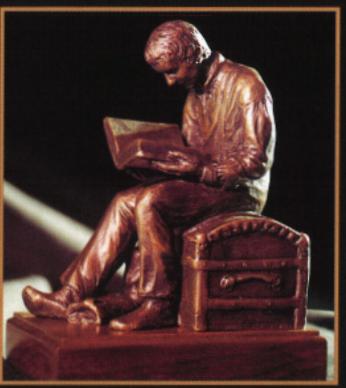


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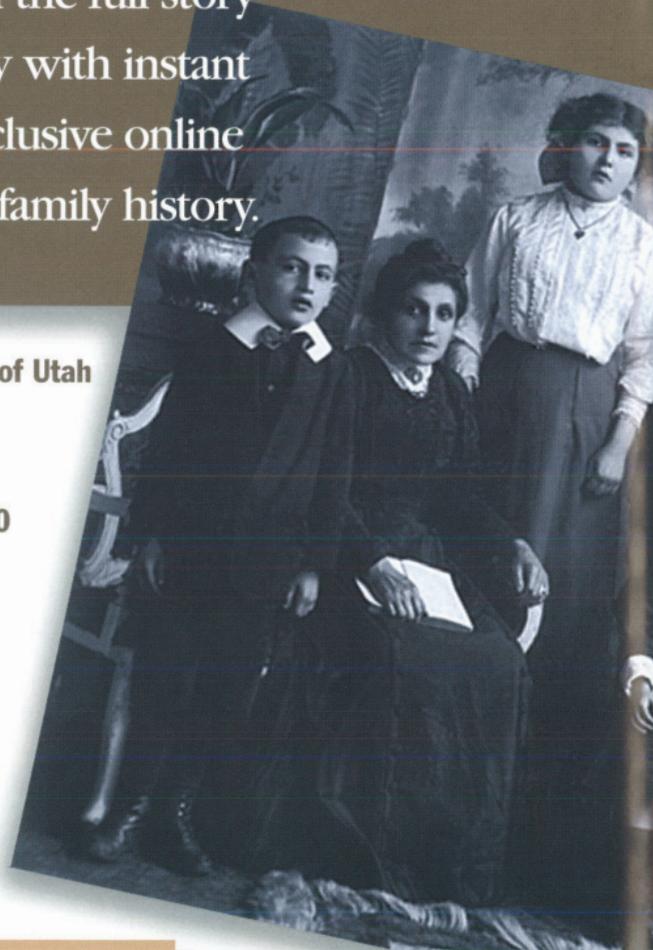
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